

**Commodity Credit Corporation, USDA**

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(1) For domestic users, the weight on which settlement for payment of the ELS cotton was based (landed mill weight);

(2) For reginned motes processed by an end user who converted such motes, without rebaling, to an end use in a continuous manufacturing process, the net weight of the reginned motes after final cleaning;

(3) For exporters, the shipping warehouse weight or the gin weight if the ELS cotton was not placed in a warehouse, of the eligible cotton unless the exporter obtains and pays the cost of having all the bales in the shipment reweighed by a licensed weigher and furnishes a copy of the certified reweights.

(c) For the purposes of this subpart, eligible ELS cotton will be considered:

(1) Consumed by the domestic user on the date the bale is opened for consumption; and

(2) Exported by the exporter on the date that CCC determines is the date on which the cotton is shipped for export.

(d) Payments under this subpart shall be made available upon application for payment and submission of supporting documentation, as required by the CCC-issued provisions of the ELS Cotton Domestic User/Exporter Agreement.

**PART 1430—DAIRY PRODUCTS**

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AUTHORITY: 7 U.S.C. 7981 and 7982; 15 U.S.C. 714b and 714c.

**Subpart A—Price Support Program for Milk**

SOURCE: 67 FR 64476, Oct. 18, 2002, unless otherwise noted.

**§ 1430.1 Definitions.**

For purposes of this subpart, unless the context indicates otherwise, the following definitions shall apply:

*AMS* means the Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA.

*CCC* means the Commodity Credit Corporation, USDA.

*FSA* means the Farm Service Agency, USDA.

*USDA* means the United States Department of Agriculture.

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### § 1430.2 Price support levels and purchase conditions.

(a)(1) The level of price support provided to farmers marketing milk containing 3.67 percent milkfat from dairy cows is \$9.90 per hundredweight for calendar year 2002 through 2007.

(2) Subject to paragraph (b) of this section, price support for milk will be made available through CCC purchases of butter, nonfat dry milk, and Cheddar cheese, offered subject to the terms and conditions of FSA's purchase announcements.

(3) CCC purchase prices for dairy products will be announced by a USDA news release.

(4) CCC may, by special announcement, offer to purchase other dairy products to support the price of milk.

(5) Purchase announcements setting forth terms and conditions of purchase may be obtained upon request from CCC.

(b)(1) The block cheese purchased shall be U.S. Grade A or higher, except that the moisture content shall not exceed 38.5 percent; the barrel cheese shall be U.S. Extra Grade, except that the moisture content shall not exceed 36.5 percent.

(2) The nonfat dry milk purchased shall be U.S. Extra Grade, except that the moisture content shall not exceed 3.5 percent.

(3) The butter purchased shall be U.S. Grade A or higher.

(c) The products purchased shall be manufactured in the United States from milk produced in the United States and shall not have been previously owned by CCC.

(d) Purchases will be made in carlot weights specified in the announcements. Grade and weights shall be evidenced by USDA-issued inspection certificates.

### Subpart B—Milk Income Loss Contract Program

SOURCE: 67 FR 64476, Oct. 18, 2002, unless otherwise noted.

#### § 1430.200 Applicability.

(a) This subpart governs the Milk Income Loss Contract Program. This program provides financial assistance to

dairy operations in connection with milk production that is sold in the commercial market.

#### § 1430.201 Administration.

(a) This program is administered under the general supervision of the Executive Vice President, CCC, or a designee, and shall be carried out by Farm Service Agency (FSA) State and county committees and employees.

(b) State and county committees, and their employees may not waive or modify any requirement of this subpart, except as provided in paragraph (e) of this section.

(c) The State committee shall take any action required when not taken by the county committee, require correction of actions not in compliance, or require the withholding of any action that is not in compliance with this subpart.

(d) The Executive Vice President, CCC, or a designee, may determine any question arising under the program or reverse or modify any decision of the State or county committee.

(e) The Deputy Administrator, Farm Programs, FSA, may waive or modify program requirements where failure to meet such requirements does not adversely affect the operation of the Milk Income Loss Contract Program.

(f) A representative of CCC may execute Milk Income Loss Contracts and related documents under the terms and conditions determined and announced by CCC. Any document not under such terms and conditions, including any purported execution before the date authorized by CCC, shall be null and void.

#### § 1430.202 Definitions.

The definitions in this section shall be applicable for all purposes of administering the Milk Income Loss Contract (MILC) program established by this subpart.

*CCC* means the Commodity Credit Corporation of the Department.

*Class I Milk* means milk, including milk components, classified as Class I milk under a Federal milk marketing order.

*Contract application* means a Milk Income Loss Contract as executed on a form prescribed by CCC.

*Contract application period* means the date established by the Deputy Administrator for producers to apply for program benefits.

*County committee* means the FSA county committee.

*County office* means the FSA office responsible for administering FSA programs to farms located in a specific area in a state.

*Dairy operation* means any person or group of persons who as a single unit as determined by CCC, produce and market milk commercially produced from cows and whose production facilities are located in the United States.

*Department or USDA* means the United States Department of Agriculture.

*Deputy Administrator* means the Deputy Administrator for Farm Programs (DAFP), FSA or a designee.

*Eligible production* means milk that was produced by cows in the United States and marketed commercially anytime during the period of December 1, 2001, through September 30, 2005, up to a maximum of 2.4 million pounds per dairy operation per fiscal year.

*Farm Service Agency or FSA* means the Farm Service Agency of the Department.

*Federal Milk Marketing Order* means an order issued under section 8c of the Agricultural Adjustment Act (7 U.S.C. 608c), reenacted with amendments by the Agricultural Marketing Agreement Act of 1937.

*Fiscal Year* means the year beginning October 1 (except December 1 for fiscal year 2002) and ending the following September 30 and such that, for example, fiscal year 2003 will run from October 1, 2002 through September 30, 2003.

*Hundredweight or cwt.* means 100 pounds.

*Marketed commercially* means sold to the market to which the dairy operation normally delivers whole milk and receives a monetary amount.

*MILC* means the Milk Income Loss Contract program or the form upon which CCC and the producer agree to the terms of the payment to be made under the MILC program.

*Milk handler* means the marketing agency to or through which the producer commercially markets whole milk.

*Milk marketing* means a marketing of milk for which there is a verifiable sales or delivery record of milk marketed for commercial use.

*Participating State* means each of the 50 States in the United States of America, including the District of Columbia, and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, or any other State, territory, or possession of the United States.

*Payment pounds* means the pounds of milk production for which an operation is eligible to be paid under this subpart.

*Producer* means any individual, group of individuals, partnership, corporation, estate, trust association, cooperative, or other business enterprise or other legal entity who is, or whose members are, a citizen of, or legal resident alien in the United States, and who directly or indirectly, as determined by the Secretary, shares in the risk of producing milk, and makes contributions (including land, labor, management, equipment, or capital) to the dairy farming operation of the individual or entity that are at least commensurate with the share of the individual or entity of the proceeds of this operation.

*Transition period* means the period from December 1, 2001, until the time the dairy operation enters into MILC contract with CCC, provided that CCC may set such a deadline for the signing of the transition contract as it deems appropriate in order to accomplish the purposes of the contract.

*United States* means the 50 States of the United States of America, the District of Columbia, and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, or any other State, territory, or possession of the United States.

*Verifiable production records* means evidence that is used to substantiate the amount of production marketed and that can be verified by CCC through an independent source.

#### § 1430.203 Eligibility.

To be eligible to receive payments under this subpart, a dairy operation must:

- (a) Have produced milk in the United States and commercially marketed the

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milk produced anytime during the period of December 1, 2001, through September 30, 2005;

(b) Enter into a MILC during the contract application period;

(c) Agree to all terms and conditions in the MILC and those that are otherwise contained in this subpart and comply with instructions issued by CCC;

(d) Provide proof of monthly milk production commercially marketed by all persons in the dairy operation during the contract period, to determine the total pounds of milk that will be converted to hundredweight (cwt.) used for payment;

(e) Submit timely production evidence according to §1430.209;

(f) Be actively engaged in the business of producing and marketing agricultural products at the time of signing the Milk Income Loss Contract.

(g) In administering this program, the eligibility determination of "dairy operation" shall be made in the same manner as Dairy Market Loss Assistance (DMLA) contracts in that State. New MILC operations must be unaffiliated with prior DMLA operations.

**§ 1430.204 Requesting benefits.**

(a) A request for benefits or contract application, under this subpart must be submitted on a form as prescribed by the Agency. Contract applications shall be submitted to the FSA office serving the county where the dairy operation is located. Contract applications must be received by FSA by the close of business on the date established by the Deputy Administrator. Contract applications received after such date shall be disapproved.

(b) The dairy operation requesting MILC benefits must certify the accuracy and truthfulness of the information in their contract application. All information provided is subject to verification by CCC. Refusal to allow CCC or any other agency of the Department to verify any information provided will result in disapproval.

(c) Contract applications will be approved by execution by FSA and producer of a MILC. All persons who share in the risk of a dairy operation's total production must sign and certify the contract application.

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**§ 1430.205 Selection of starting month.**

(a) Except as provided in §1430.206 and beginning with the 2003 Fiscal Year, a dairy operation that enters into a MILC, and does not want its payments to begin with the first month of the fiscal year, must designate the starting month that it desires CCC to begin making payments to them. The starting month must be selected on or before the 15th of the month before the month for which payment is sought. A dairy operation cannot select a month for payment which:

- (1) Has already begun;
- (2) Has already passed; or
- (3) During which no milk was produced by the dairy operation.

(b) Dairy operations may change the starting month on or before the first day of 15th of the month before the month previously selected. Otherwise, the starting month cannot be changed until the next Fiscal Year. If the selected starting month is never modified, it will remain the same throughout the duration of the contract.

(c) MILC payments will be made consecutively to the dairy operation on a monthly basis after the starting month has been designated until the earlier of the following:

- (1) The maximum payment quantity is reached as determined in accordance with §1430.207; or
- (2) The end of the applicable Fiscal Year.

(d)(1) Dairy operations that do not designate the month to begin receiving payments from CCC will be issued consecutive payments on a monthly basis, on marketed milk production beginning in the first month of the fiscal year, unless FSA is otherwise notified that selection will be made at a later date.

(2) Dairy operations that desire payments to begin with the first month of the fiscal year will receive payments made by CCC consecutively on a monthly basis until the earlier of the following:

- (i) The maximum payment quantity is reached as determined in accordance with §1430.207; or
- (ii) The end of the applicable fiscal year.

(e) All producers involved in the dairy operation must agree to the

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month designated. The dairy operation assumes the risk of not reaching the maximum payment quantity based on the month selected by the dairy operation. Payments will not be issued for past months for the sole purpose of reaching the maximum payment quantity.

**§ 1430.206 Transition payments.**

(a) MILC program participants shall receive a payment calculated under § 1430.208 on the quantity of eligible production marketed by the dairy operation during the period beginning December 1, 2001, and ending on the last day of the month preceding the month the operation's MILC is executed.

(b) Transition payments are subject to the following:

(1) The maximum payment quantity on eligible production, as described in § 1430.207;

(2) Consecutive monthly payments beginning on December 1, 2001, and if applicable the beginning of the fiscal year thereafter, until the earlier of the following is reached for a particular fiscal year:

(i) The maximum applicable payment quantity is reached as determined in accordance with § 1430.207; or

(ii) The end of the applicable fiscal year.

(c) With respect to the 2002 Fiscal Year, the dairy operation may elect to forgo their transition payment and choose to begin receiving payments in September, 2002 in accordance with § 1430.205.

(d) Notwithstanding any other provisions in this subpart, dairy operations that go out of business after December 1, 2001, may enter into a MILC with CCC for a transition payment on the quantity of eligible production marketed by the dairy operation during the transition period while the dairy operation was in business.

**§ 1430.207 Dairy operation payment quantity.**

(a) The applicant's payment quantity of milk will be determined by CCC, based on the quantity of milk that was produced and commercially marketed by each dairy operation per fiscal year.

(b) The maximum quantity of eligible production for which dairy operations

are eligible for payment per any fiscal year, including any in the transition year, under this subpart shall be 2.4 million pounds (24,000 cwt.) per separate and distinct operation. In accordance with these regulations, the Deputy Administrator shall determine what is a separate and distinct operation and that decision shall be final.

**§ 1430.208 Payment rate and dairy operation payment.**

(a) Payments under this subpart may be made to dairy operations when the Boston Class I milk price under the applicable Federal milk marketing order is below \$16.94 per cwt. No payments will be made to dairy operations for marketings during the months that the Boston Class I milk price under the applicable milk marketing order exceeds \$16.94.

(b) A per-hundredweight payment rate will be determined for the applicable month by:

(1) Subtracting from \$16.94 the Class I milk price per cwt in Boston; and

(2) Multiplying the difference, if positive, by 45 percent.

(c) Each eligible dairy operation payment will be calculated, as determined by the Secretary, by:

(1) Converting whole pounds of milk to hundredweight; and

(2) Multiplying the payment rate determined in paragraph (b) of this section by the quantity of eligible production marketed by the operation during the applicable month as determined according to § 1430.205 and other provisions of these regulations.

(d) Payments under this subpart may be made to a dairy operation only up to the first 2.4 million pounds of eligible milk production per applicable fiscal year, including any year in the transition period.

(e) Dairy operations receiving benefits under this subpart, will receive payments on a monthly basis according to the MILC, to the extent practicable, not later than 60 days after the production evidence and all supporting documents for the applicable month are received by CCC. Payments issued by CCC later than 60 days after all production evidence and supporting documentation are received by CCC will be

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subject to prompt payment interest as allowed by law.

**§ 1430.209 Proof of marketings.**

(a) A dairy operation entering into an MILC must, based on instructions issued by the Deputy Administrator, provide adequate proof of the dairy operation's eligible production during the months of each fiscal year designated in the MILC. The dairy operation must also provide proof that the eligible production was commercially marketed during the months beginning December 1, 2001, and ending September 30, 2005. Evidence of milk production claimed for payment shall be provided to CCC with supporting documentation under paragraph (b) of this section. All information provided is subject to verification, spot check, and audit by FSA. Further verification information may be obtained from the dairy operation's milk handler or marketing cooperative if deemed necessary by CCC to verify provided information. Refusal to allow FSA or any other agency of the Department of Agriculture to verify any information provided will result in a determination of ineligibility for benefits under this subpart.

(b) Eligible dairy operations marketing milk during the period specified in the MILC shall provide any available supporting documents from all producers in the dairy operation to assist CCC in verifying that the dairy operation produced and marketed milk commercially from the designated starting month and thereafter. Examples of supporting documentation include, but are not limited to: milk marketing payment stubs, tank records, milk handler records, daily milk marketings, copies of any payments received as compensation from other sources, or any other documents available to confirm the production and production history of the dairy operation. Producers may also be required to allow CCC to examine the herd of cattle as production evidence. If supporting documentation requested is not presented to CCC or FSA, the request for MILC benefits will be disapproved.

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**§ 1430.210 MILC agents.**

(a) MILC benefits may be disbursed by a dairy marketing cooperative that serves special groups or communities, such as an Amish or Mennonite community. Producers in such groups in a dairy operation may authorize an agent of a dairy cooperative or milk handler affiliated with such cooperative to obtain and disburse MILC benefits to the dairy operation.

(b) The authorized MILC agent must on behalf of the dairy operation do the following:

(1) Obtain an acceptable power of attorney or acceptable equivalent for the producers of the dairy operation that authorizes the agent to enter into an MILC contract;

(2) Enter into a written agreement with CCC for approval to act as a MILC agent on a form prescribed by CCC;

(3) Provide the dairy operation's monthly production evidence to the appropriate FSA office;

(4) Disburse payment to the dairy operation in the producer's monthly milk check or in an otherwise approved manner.

**§ 1430.211 Duration of contracts.**

(a) Except as provided in §§ 1430.205 and 1430.206, or elsewhere in this subpart, contracts under this subpart entered into by producers in a dairy operation shall cover eligible production marketed by the producers in the dairy operation during the period beginning with the first day of the month the producers in the dairy operation enter into contract and ending on September 30, 2005.

(b) If a dairy goes out of business during the contract period, the MILC will be terminated immediately, except as applicable to earned payments.

**§ 1430.212 Contract modifications.**

(a) Producers in a dairy operation must notify FSA immediately of any changes that may affect their MILC. Changes include, but are not limited to changes to the starting month to receive payment for the next fiscal year, death of producer on the contract, new member joining the operation, member exiting the operation, transfer of shares by sale or other transfer action,

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or farm reconstitutions undertaken in accordance with § 1430.213.

(b) CCC may modify an MILC if such modifications are desirable to carry out purposes of the program or to facilitate the program's administration.

### § 1430.213 Reconstitutions.

(a) A dairy operation receiving MILC benefits may reorganize or restructure such that the constitution or makeup of their operation is reconstituted in another organizational framework. However, any operation that changes after December 1, 2001, is subject to a review by FSA to determine if the operation was reorganized for the sole purpose of receiving multiple payments.

(b) A dairy operation that FSA determines has reorganized solely to receive additional MILC payments will be in violation of its contract and dealt in accordance with § 1430.214.

(c) If during the contract period a change in the dairy operation occurs, the modification to the MILC will not take effect until the first day of the fiscal year following the month FSA received notification of the changes. Changes include but are not limited to any producer affiliated with a dairy operation that has an approved MILC with CCC forming a new dairy operation that is not formed solely to receive additional MILC payments.

(d) Changes resulting in the following will take effect immediately upon notification to CCC, in accordance with § 1430.212:

(1) Increases or reductions of shareholders or producers and their corresponding share amounts in the dairy operation; or

(2) Purchases of a new dairy operation by a producer or producers not affiliated with an existing dairy operation that has an approved MILC with CCC.

### § 1430.214 Violations.

(a) If producers in a dairy operation violates the MILC or the requirements of this subpart, CCC may:

(1) Terminate the MILC for the remainder of the fiscal year in which the violation occurs, and allow the producer to retain any payments received under the contract; or

(2) Allow the MILC to remain in effect and require the producer to repay a portion of the payments received commensurate with the violation's severity, as CCC determines.

(3) If the MILC is terminated under this section, the participant shall forfeit all rights to further MILC benefits and shall refund all or part of the payments received as CCC determines appropriate.

(4) A producer or operation with a violation, as determined by CCC, shall refund all MILC funds disbursed under of this part. The remedies provided in this subpart shall be in addition to other civil, criminal, or administrative remedies which may apply.

(b) A MILC is violated by the following actions:

(1) Failure to comply with the terms and conditions of the MILC and addendum;

(2) Reconstitutions of the dairy operation for the sole purpose of receiving multiple program benefits;

(3) Failure to comply with highly erodible land conservation and wetland provisions of this 7 CFR part 12 or their successor regulations;

(4) Failure to meet the definition of a dairy operation according to § 1430.202;

(5) Any action that tends to defeat the purpose of the program, as CCC determines.

(c) The Deputy Administrator for Farm Programs (DAFP) of the Farm Service Agency may terminate any MILC by mutual agreement upon request of the participant if DAFP determines that termination is in the best interest of the public.

(d) The DAFP may determine that failure of the dairy operation to perform the MILC does not warrant termination and may require the participant to refund part of the payments received or accept adjustments in the payment as the DAFP determines to be appropriate.

### § 1430.215 [Reserved]

### § 1430.216 Contracts not in conformity with regulations.

If it is discovered that an MILC contract does not comply with this subpart as the result of a misunderstanding by someone who has signed the contract, the contract may be

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modified by mutual agreement. If the parties to the MILC cannot reach agreement for such modification, it shall be terminated and all payments paid or payable under the contract shall be forfeited or refunded to CCC, except as may otherwise be allowed under § 1430.214.

**§ 1430.217 Offsets and withholdings.**

CCC may offset or withhold any amount due CCC under this subpart under the provisions of part 1403 of this chapter or any successor regulations.

**§ 1430.218 Assignments.**

Any producer may assign a payment to be made under this part in accordance with part 1404 of this chapter or successor regulations as designated by the Department.

**§ 1430.219 Appeals.**

Any producer who is dissatisfied with a determination made pursuant to this subpart may request reconsideration or appeal of such determination under part 11 or 780 of this title.

**§ 1430.220 Misrepresentation and scheme or device.**

(a) A dairy operation shall be ineligible for the MILC program if FSA determines that it knowingly:

(1) Adopted a scheme or device that tends to defeat the purpose of this program;

(2) Made any fraudulent representation; or

(3) Misrepresented any fact affecting a determination under this program. CCC will take steps deemed necessary to protect the interests of the government.

(b) Any funds disbursed to a producer or operation engaged in a misrepresentation, scheme, or device, shall be refunded to CCC. The remedies provided in this subpart shall be in addition to other civil, criminal, or administrative remedies which may apply.

**§ 1430.221 Estates, trusts, and minors.**

(a) Program documents executed by producers legally authorized to represent estates or trusts will be accepted only if such producers furnish evidence of the authority to execute such documents.

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(b) A minor who is otherwise eligible for assistance under this part must also:

(1) Establish that the right of majority has been conferred on the minor by court proceedings or by statute;

(2) Show that a guardian has been appointed to manage the minor's property and the applicable program documents are executed by the guardian; or

(3) Furnish a bond under which the surety guarantees any loss incurred for which the minor would be liable had the minor been an adult.

**§ 1430.222 Death, incompetency, or disappearance.**

In the case of death, incompetency, disappearance or dissolution of a producer that is eligible to receive benefits under this part, such persons as are specified in part 707 of this title may receive such benefits, as determined appropriate by FSA.

**§ 1430.223 Maintenance and inspection of records.**

(a) Producers approved for benefits under this program must maintain accurate records and accounts that will document that they meet all eligibility requirements specified herein, as may be requested by CCC or FSA. Such records and accounts must be retained for 3 years after the date of payment to the dairy operation under this program. Destruction of the records 3 years after the date of payment shall be the risk of the party undertaking the destruction.

(b) At all times during regular business hours, authorized representatives of CCC, the Department, or the Comptroller General of the United States shall have access to the premises of the dairy operation in order to inspect the herd of cattle, examine, and make copies of the books, records, and accounts, and other written data as specified in paragraph (a) of this section.

(c) Any funds disbursed pursuant to this part to any producers or operation who does not comply with the provisions of paragraphs (a) or (b) of this section, or who otherwise receives a payment for which they are not eligible, shall be refunded with interest.

**§ 1430.224 Refunds; joint and several liability.**

(a) In the event of an error on a MILC application, a failure to comply with any term, requirement, or condition for payment arising under the MILC application, or this subpart, all improper payments shall be refunded to CCC together with interest from the date payment was received through the date the refund is received by CCC.

(b) All producers signing a dairy operation's application for payment as having an interest in the operation shall be jointly and severally liable for any refund, including related charges, that is determined to be due for any reason under the terms and conditions of the contract application and addendum or this part for such operation.

**§ 1430.225 Violations of highly erodible land and wetland conservation provisions.**

The provisions of part 12 of this title apply to this part.

**§ 1430.226 Violations regarding controlled substances.**

The provisions of § 18.11 of this title apply to this part.

**Subpart C [Reserved]****Subpart D—Dairy Market Loss Assistance Program**

AUTHORITY: Pub. L. 105-277, 112 Stat. 2681; Pub. L. 106-78, 113 Stat. 1135; Pub. L. 106-387, 114 Stat. 1549.

SOURCE: 64 FR 24934, May 10, 1999, unless otherwise noted.

**§ 1430.500 Applicability.**

This subpart establishes the Dairy Market Loss Assistance Program. The purpose of this program is to provide benefits to dairy operations under Public Law 105-277, 112 Stat. 2681; sections 805 and 825 of Public Law 106-78; and section 805 of Public Law 106-387 only, in order to provide financial assistance to dairy operations in connection with normal milk production that is sold on the commercial market.

[64 FR 24934, May 10, 1999, as amended at 65 FR 7956, Feb. 16, 2000; 66 FR 15176, Mar. 15, 2001]

**§ 1430.501 Administration.**

(a) The provisions of §§ 1430.351, 1430.352, 1430.354, 1430.355, and 1430.360 shall be applied to this subpart in the same manner as they are applied to the subpart in which they are located.

(b) The provisions of §§ 1430.1 through 1430.349, 1430.353, 1430.356 through 1430.359, 1430.361 through 1430.362, and 1430.400 through 1430.410 are not applicable to this subpart.

(c) This subpart shall be administered by the Farm Service Agency (FSA) under the general direction and supervision of the Executive Vice President, CCC or designee. The program shall be carried out in the field by State and county FSA committees under the general direction and supervision of the State and county FSA committees.

(d) State and county committees, and representatives and employees thereof, do not have the authority to modify or waive any of the provisions of the regulations in this subpart.

(e) The State committee shall take any action required by this subpart which has not been taken by the county committee. The State committee shall also:

(1) Correct, or require a county committee to correct, any action taken by such county committee which is not in accordance with the regulations of this subpart; or

(2) Require a county committee to withhold taking any action which is not in accordance with the regulations of this subpart.

(f) No delegation in this subpart to a State or county committee shall preclude the Executive Vice President, CCC, or a designee, from determining any question arising under the program or from reversing or modifying any determination made by a State or county committee.

(g) The Deputy Administrator for Farm Programs, FSA, may authorize State and county committees to waive or modify deadlines and other program requirements in cases where timeliness or failure to meet such other requirements does not adversely affect the operation of the program.

**§ 1430.502 Definitions.**

The definitions set forth in this section shall be applicable for all purposes of administering the Dairy Market Loss Assistance Program established by this subpart.

*Application* means the Dairy Market Loss Assistance Program Payment application, CCC-1040.

*Application period* means April 12, 1999 through February 28, 2001.

*Base period* means the calendar year, either 1997 or 1998, as selected by the dairy operation, during which milk was produced and marketed.

*Commodity Credit Corporation* means the Commodity Credit Corporation.

*Dairy operation* means any person or group of persons who as a single unit as determined by CCC, produce and market milk commercially produced from cows and whose production and facilities are located in the United States.

*Department* means the United States Department of Agriculture.

*Deputy Administrator* means the Deputy Administrator for Farm Programs (DAFP), Farm Service Agency (FSA) or a designee.

*Eligible production* means milk that had been produced by cows in the United States and marketed commercially in the United States anytime during the 1997 and or 1998 calendar year, subject to a maximum of 26,000 cwt per dairy operation.

*Farm Service Agency* or FSA means the Farm Service Agency of the Department.

*Fourth quarter of 1998* means the period from October 1, 1998 through December 31, 1998.

*Marketed commercially* means sold to the market to which the dairy operation normally delivers whole milk and receives a monetary amount.

*Milk handler* means the marketing agency to or through which the producer commercially markets whole milk.

*Milk marketing* means a marketing of milk for which there is a verifiable sales or delivery record of milk marketed for commercial use.

*Person* means any individual, group of individuals, partnership, corporation, estate, trust, association, cooperative, or other business enterprise or other legal entity who is, or whose

members are, a citizen or citizens of, or legal resident alien or aliens in the United States.

*Secretary* means the Secretary of the United States Department of Agriculture or any other officer or employee of the Department who has been delegated the authority to act in the Secretary's stead with respect to the program established in this part.

*United States* means the 50 States of the United States of America, the District of Columbia, and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico.

[64 FR 24934, May 10, 1999, as amended at 65 FR 7956, Feb. 16, 2000; 66 FR 15177, Mar. 15, 2001]

**§ 1430.503 Time and method for application.**

(a) Dairy operations may obtain an application, Form CCC-1040 (Dairy Market Loss Assistance Program Payment Application), in person, by mail, by telephone, or by facsimile from any county FSA office. In addition, applicants may download a copy of the CCC-1040 at <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/dafp/psd/>

(b) A request for benefits under this subpart must be submitted on a completed Form CCC-1040. The Form CCC-1040 should be submitted to the county FSA office serving the county where the dairy operation is located but, in any case, must be received by the county FSA office by the close of business on February 28, 2001. Applications not received by the close of business on February 28, 2001, will be disapproved as not having been timely filed and the dairy operation will not be eligible for benefits under this program.

(c) All persons who share in the milk production of a dairy operation that marketed milk during the fourth quarter of 1998 must certify on the same CCC-1040 in order to obtain the total milk production of the dairy operation before the application is complete.

(d) The dairy operation requesting benefits under this subpart must certify with respect to the accuracy and truthfulness of the information provided in their application for benefits. All information provided is subject to verification and spot checks by CCC. Refusal to allow CCC or any other

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agency of the Department of Agriculture to verify any information provided will result in a determination of ineligibility. Data furnished by the applicant will be used to determine eligibility for program benefits. Furnishing the data is voluntary; however, without it program benefits will not be approved. Providing a false certification to the Government is punishable by imprisonment, fines and other penalties.

[64 FR 24934, May 10, 1999, as amended at 65 FR 7956, Feb. 16, 2000; 66 FR 15177, Mar. 15, 2001]

**§ 1430.504 Eligibility.**

(a) To be eligible to receive cash payments under this subpart, a dairy operation must:

(1) Have produced and marketed milk commercially in the United States anytime during the fourth quarter of 1998;

(2) Indicate all milk commercially marketed by all persons in the dairy operation during calendar year 1997 and 1998 to establish the base period for determining the total pounds of milk that will be converted to hundred-weight (cwt) used for payment; and

(3) Apply for payments during the application period.

(b) A dairy operation must submit a timely application and comply with all other terms and conditions of this subpart and those that are otherwise contained in the application to be eligible for benefits under this subpart.

**§ 1430.505 Proof of production.**

(a) Dairy operations selected for spotchecks by CCC must, in accordance with instructions issued by the Deputy Administrator, provide adequate proof that the dairy operation was commercially marketing milk anytime during the fourth quarter of 1998. The dairy operation must also provide proof of production for the 1997 or 1998 calendar year to verify the base period. The documentary evidence of milk production claimed for payment shall be reported to CCC together with any supporting documentation under paragraph (b) of this section. The pounds of 1997 or 1998 calendar year milk production must be documented using actual records.

(b) All persons involved in such dairy operation marketing milk during the fourth quarter of 1998 shall provide any available supporting documents to assist the county FSA office in verifying that the dairy operation produced and marketed milk commercially during the fourth quarter of 1998 and the base period milk marketings indicated on Form CCC-1040. Examples of supporting documentation include, but are not limited to: tank records, milk handler records, milk marketing payment stubs, daily milk marketings, copies of any payments received as compensation from other sources, or any other documents available to confirm the production and production history of the dairy operation. In the event that supporting documentation is not presented to the county FSA office requesting the information, dairy operations will be determined ineligible for benefits.

**§ 1430.506 Payment rate and dairy operation payment.**

(a) Payments under this subpart may be made to dairy operations only on the first 26,000 cwt of milk produced by them from cows in the United States actually marketed in the United States during the base period. A payment rate will be determined after the conclusion of the application period, and shall be calculated by:

(1) Converting whole pounds of milk to cwt;

(2) Totaling the eligible cwt (not to exceed 26,000 cwt) of milk marketed commercially during the base period from all approved applications; and

(3) Dividing the amount available for Dairy Market Loss Assistance Program by the total eligible cwt submitted and approved for payment.

(b) Each dairy operation payment will be calculated by multiplying the payment rate determined in paragraph (a) (3) of this section by the dairy operation's eligible production.

(c) In the event that approval of all eligible applications would result in expenditures in excess of the amount available, CCC shall reduce the payment rate in such manner as CCC, in its sole discretion, finds fair and reasonable.

**§ 1430.507 Misrepresentation and scheme or device.**

(a) A dairy operation shall be ineligible to receive assistance under this program if it is determined by the State committee or the county committee to have:

- (1) Adopted any scheme or device which tends to defeat the purpose of this program;
- (2) Made any fraudulent representation; or
- (3) Misrepresented any fact affecting a program determination.

(b) Any funds disbursed pursuant to this part to a dairy operation engaged in a misrepresentation, scheme, or device, or to any other person as a result of the dairy operation's actions, shall be refunded with interest together with such other sums as may become due. Any dairy operation or person engaged in acts prohibited by this section and any dairy operation or person receiving payment under this subpart shall be jointly and severally liable for any refund due under this section and for related charges. The remedies provided in this subpart shall be in addition to other civil, criminal, or administrative remedies which may apply.

**§ 1430.508 Maintaining records.**

Dairy operations making application for benefits under this program must maintain accurate records and accounts that will document that they meet all eligibility requirements specified in this subpart and the pounds of milk marketed commercially during the fourth quarter of 1998 and the base period. Such records and accounts must be retained for at least three years after the date of the cash payment to dairy operations under this program.

**§ 1430.509 Refunds; joint and several liability.**

(a) In the event there is a failure to comply with any term, requirement, or condition for payment arising under the application, or this subpart, and if any refund of a payment to CCC shall otherwise become due in connection with the application, or this subpart, all payments made under this subpart to any dairy operation shall be refunded to CCC together with interest

as determined in accordance with paragraph (c) of this section and late-payment charges as provided for in part 1403 of this chapter.

(b) All persons listed on a dairy operation's application shall be jointly and severally liable for any refund, including related charges, which is determined to be due for any reason under the terms and conditions of the application or this subpart.

(c) Interest shall be applicable to refunds required of the dairy operation if CCC determines that payments or other assistance were provided to the producer was not eligible for such assistance. Such interest shall be charged at the rate of interest which the United States Treasury charges CCC for funds, as of the date CCC made such benefits available. Such interest shall accrue from the date such benefits were made available to the date of repayment or the date interest increases as determined in accordance with applicable regulations. CCC may waive the accrual of interest if CCC determines that the cause of the erroneous determination was not due to any action of the dairy operation.

(d) Interest determined in accordance with paragraph (c) of this section may be waived by CCC with respect to refunds required of the dairy operation because of unintentional misaction on the part of the dairy operation, as determined by CCC.

(e) Late payment interest shall be assessed on all refunds in accordance with the provisions of, and subject to the rates prescribed in 7 CFR part 1403.

(f) Dairy operations must refund to CCC any excess payments made by CCC with respect to such application.

(g) In the event that a benefit under this subpart was provided as the result of erroneous information provided by any person, the benefit must be repaid with any applicable interest.

**§ 1430.510 New producers.**

Notwithstanding other provisions of this subpart, producers who were new producers in 1999 or 2000 and not affiliated with other eligible producers may receive payments from sums made available after October 27, 2000 based on their 1999 production levels or for 2000, on their production levels from

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October 1, 1999 through September 30, 2000.

[66 FR 15177, Mar. 15, 2001]

### § 1430.511 Supplemental payments.

(a) Supplemental payments under Public Law 106-387 will be made available to dairy operations in connection with normal milk production that is sold on the commercial market.

(b) For supplemental payments made under this section, the payment rate shall be \$0.6468 per cwt.

(c) For dairy operations that received a payment under sections 805 and 825 of Public Law 106-78 on less than 12 months production, an annual production level will be calculated by subtracting from the dairy operation's production level for the period of October 1, 1999 through September 30, 2000 the production level on which previous payments were received.

[66 FR 15177, Mar. 15, 2001]

## PART 1434—NONRECOURSE MARKETING ASSISTANCE LOAN AND LDP REGULATIONS FOR HONEY

Sec.

- 1434.1 Applicability.
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- 1434.4 Eligible producer.
- 1434.5 Eligible honey.
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- 1434.7 Approved storage.
- 1434.8 Containers and drums.
- 1434.9 Determination of quantity.
- 1434.10 Application, availability, disbursement, and maturity.
- 1434.11 Fees and interest.
- 1434.12 Liens.
- 1434.13 Transfer of producer's interest prohibited.
- 1434.14 Loss or damage.
- 1434.15 Personal liability of the producer.
- 1434.16 Release of the honey pledged as collateral for a loan.
- 1434.17 Liquidation of loans.
- 1434.18 Loan repayments.
- 1434.19 Settlement.
- 1434.20 Foreclosure.
- 1434.21 Loan deficiency payments.
- 1434.22 Handling payments and collections not exceeding \$9.99.
- 1434.23 Death, incompetency, or disappearance; appeals; other loan provisions.

AUTHORITY: 7 U.S.C. 7931.

SOURCE: 66 FR 15177, Mar. 15, 2001, unless otherwise noted.

### § 1434.1 Applicability.

This part provides the terms and conditions of Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) nonrecourse marketing assistance loans or loan deficiency payments for honey. Marketing loan gains and loan deficiency payments shall be limited per person in the amounts set out in part 1400 of this chapter.

[67 FR 64480, Oct. 18, 2002]

### § 1434.2 Administration.

(a) The regulations of this part shall be administered under the general supervision of the Executive Vice President, CCC, and shall be carried out in the field by State and county Farm Service Agency (FSA) committees.

(b) State and county committees, representatives and employees thereof, do not have the authority to modify or waive any of the provisions of the regulations of this part.

(c) The State committee shall take any action required by the regulations of this part that has not been taken by the county committee. The State committee shall also:

(1) Correct, or require a county committee to correct, any action taken by such county committee that is not in accordance with the regulations of this part; or

(2) Require a county committee to withhold taking any action that is not in accordance with the regulations of this part.

(d) No provision or delegation herein to a State or county committee shall preclude the Executive Vice President, CCC, or a designee, from determining any question arising under the program or from reversing or modifying any determination made by a State or county committee.

(e) The Deputy Administrator for Farm Programs, FSA, may authorize State and county committees to waive or modify deadlines and other program requirements in cases where timeliness or failure to meet such other requirements does not affect adversely the operation of the program.

(f) An approving official of CCC may execute loans and related documents only under the terms and conditions determined and announced by CCC.